



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

October 9, 2010
Contact: Chris Mackey
Office: (919) 733-5612

Auto Parts Manufacturer to Locate Facility, Bring Jobs to Buncombe County
State Grant Helps Reich GmbH Locate in Arden

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that Reich LLC, a leading manufacturer of precision vehicle parts will locate a new production facility in Buncombe County. As part of a \$175,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund, Reich plans to create 56 jobs over three years, while investing \$28 million. The company plans to create 79 jobs and invest \$33 million over a 5-year period.

“North Carolina continues to earn top rankings for its business climate from experts at places like Forbes and CNBC,” Perdue said. “But it’s announcements like today’s terrific news from Reich and other global manufacturers that prove we are following the right strategy to lift our state out of recession and into recovery.”

Reich is an international supplier of vehicle parts and special ball bearings. They produce gears and gear parts for transmissions, fuel injection system parts, and other precision parts for cars and trucks. They also produce special ball bearings for use in power drills and office furniture. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Reich GmbH, headquartered in Mellrichstadt, Germany. The Buncombe County plant will be the company’s second manufacturing facility.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the average annual wage for the new jobs will be \$32,435 not including benefits. The Buncombe County average annual wage is \$32,968.

“Reich GmbH is very excited to expand its operations to the United States with the establishment of Reich, LLC in North Carolina”, says Christian Helfricht, General Manager of Reich LLC. “The Asheville area is centered among many of the top U.S. automotive suppliers, and North Carolina’s commitment to a strong business climate and job growth makes this state the best choice to locate our new facility. We would like to thank Gov. Perdue, the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce and AdvantageWest Economic Development Group, who introduced us to the Western North Carolina area and the wonderful people that have helped us to make